

KEARSLEY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Report
FOR 1906

BY

J. C. EAMES, M.D.,
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH;

AND

GEORGE WALSH,
INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES.

ISSUED BY

THE KEARSLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL,
FEBRUARY, 1907.

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Medical Officer's Report.

BARNFIELD HOUSE, STONECLOUGH,

MARCH 14TH, 1907.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Kearsley Urban
District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I am again very pleased to be able to give you a good Report for the past year. It is remarkably similar to that of the previous, which was one of the best we have had. Our population is taken at 9,600, and as our area is 996 acres, it gives us a density of 9·6 per acre. The average for the 96 Urban Sanitary Districts of Lancashire is 3·6, and of the 20 Municipal Boroughs 7·23. This is an important item in considering our sanitary condition. It will be seen our average density is rather high, and in some parts there is great congestion, and it is in these that disease is so liable to spread.

Our Death Rate was 15·8 against 14·1, and an average for the last ten years of 16·8. Our other statistics are, however, a little better than those of 1905. Our Birth Rate was 26·9 against 25·5, and an average for ten years of 30. The notifications of Infectious Diseases were 29 against 30, and an average for the seven years since it became compulsory of 87. Our Infant Death Rate 166 against 172, and a ten-year average of 189. Our rate from the seven principal Zymotic Diseases was 2·7 against 2·5. The slight increase is owing to the new regulations of the Local Government Board, under which all deaths of children under one from Enteritis, &c., are now to be included as if from Diarrhœa. On the old lines it would only have been 2·3.

The number of Deaths registered in 1906 was 152, giving a rate per 1,000 per annum of 15·8. Only one of these occurred in public institutions outside the district. The number of children under 1 was 43 ; 16 were of those

between 1 and 5 ; 6 between 5 and 15 ; 5 between 15 and 25 ; 47 between 25 and 65 ; and 35 over 65. Most took place in September and December (17), and fewest in July and February (5 and 7). Bronchitis and other diseases of the lungs caused 19, against 17 in the previous year ; Diarrhœa, 17 against 13 ; Heart Disease and Consumption, 9 each against 9 and 6 ; Premature Birth, 6 against 2 ; Cancer, 5 as in 1905 ; Whooping Cough and Accidents, 3 each as in 1905 ; Measles, Enteric Fever, and Alcoholism, 2 each against 4, 2 and 2.

The notifications of Infectious Disease were 29 against 30. Thirteen were of Scarlet Fever against 18 in 1905, 7 of Enteric Fever against 8, 5 of Diphtheria against 2, 3 of Erysipelas against 1, and 1 of Puerperal Fever as in 1905.

The Births during the year were 259—139 male and 120 female—against 243 in 1905. This again gives a very low rate, 26·9. The increase of Births over Deaths is only 107, nearly a third less than in the years between 1885 and 1900, when our total population was much smaller.

The rate from the seven principal Zymotic diseases was 2·7. I have already explained the slight increase over the previous year. I pointed out last year how this rate, which is generally taken as the best test of the sanitary state of the district, depended almost entirely on the amount of Diarrhœa in the children of our district. I gave you figures shewing that for the last ten years it caused half the Zymotic rate ; last year that proportion was all but two-thirds. Seventeen out of the 26 deaths were due to it—3 each to Whooping Cough and Enteric, 2 to Measles and 1 to Diphtheria. None to Scarlet Fever.

Some of our critics would make it out that our high Zymotic rate is due to not making use of the excellent Hospital accommodation we have at command for cases of Scarlet Fever and Enteric. I consider the above figures the best reply. They shew that our rate from the three diseases which could have been sent to Hospital—Scarlet Fever, Typhoid and Diphtheria—is only ·41.

Scarlet Fever has been present in its now usual mild form all year, only four months being quite free from it. During the two and a half years which have elapsed since we gave up sending cases to Hospital we have had 44 cases notified against 157 in the same length of time before. We cannot expect this happy state of things to continue indefinitely. We shall again have our bad years. It has, however, lasted long enough to shew that they will not be due to our not using Hospital Isolation.

Measles was more or less prevalent all the year. We, however, almost escaped our annual closing of schools, as it only became necessary in December. It was then thought advisable to close the Kearsley Moor Wesleyan. So long as this is the only step taken to prevent its spread we can hardly expect any improvement. Let me once again state how very serious this disease and its sequelæ are. The Death rate from it is more than double that of the so much more dreaded Scarlet Fever. I wish some of the money saved on our Hospital Boycott of the latter could be spent on its notification, and the subsequent visits and advice of your Nuisance Inspector.

Diarrhœa was more prevalent than usual in the three Autumn months. We again issued circulars, and in a more permanent form, giving advice about it and Infant feeding. These I find carefully preserved in the clean, tidy houses where least required, but no signs of them where they would be of immense service if only kept and attended to.

On making my usual systematic Inspection of the whole district in the Autumn along with your Nuisance Inspector, I was pleased to find most of the previous causes of complaint removed. This applies specially to those about Back Fletcher Street, Edward Street, the top end of Primrose Street and Roscow Road. On the other hand, Cemetery Road, Dale Street, Gerrard Street, Back John Street, and the top end of Church Street were still either unpaved or unsewered or both. To them I must add Oakes Street and Jackson Street as being very badly in want of paving.

In counting up the number of Privies, in some places there was a great deficiency, In Market Street (147-153) there was still only 1 to 4 houses ; in Fletcher Street and Back Fletcher Street there were 24 houses to 12 closets ; in Parsonage Court 11 houses to 4 closets ; in Chapel Street 9 to 3. New ones had been built in Roscow Road and the bottom of Slackey Brow. Those in Edward Street are good, but lie too low, and the ground around is generally very wet and dirty.

Two or three yards at the top of Hilton Street were wet, and this was thought due to springs. In High Style Fold there was great congestion, and the substitution of the waste water closets and bucket system should be advantageous. I wish similar action was taken in many other neighbourhoods where the houses and privies are much too closely packed. The cost might be heavy, but I believe if the Council would pay a proportion it would be money well spent.

SCHOOLS.—St. John's very good. The Bolton Road Council (late Jerusalem) shew some improvement. The Privies have been rebuilt and altered to the water system. The yards are still dirty and in want of paving, and the ventilation of some class-rooms was bad, and there was considerable overcrowding. St. Stephen's yards and closets very good, but some overcrowding in class-rooms. Kearsley Moor Wesleyan had ventilation, before complained of, improved, but yards still dirty and in want of paving. Lower Kearsley Wesleyan in same condition, and closets, &c., dirty, and require supply of water for flushing.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES as before fairly satisfactory.

BAKEHOUSES ditto. Davies & Lindley's had been improved by removal of adjoining stable. Butterworth's, however, communicates too closely with the living room, and Seddons' surroundings are bad.

COWSHEDS and DAIRIES generally good, but still too few signs of care about the cleaning of the cattle. Tebay's badly in want of proper dairy and manure pit ; Mills' of yard paving.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.—My usual cause of complaint about the Moss Rose Mill has at last been attended to. The great improvement at Messrs. Kingley and Kenyon's has made me strongly advise Messrs. Armitage to take similar action—that is, substitute water closets for privies. Those at the Lower Kearsley Co-Operative Stores were unsatisfactory. Their workrooms also required whitewashing, and likewise those of Messrs. Dawson and Astley.

The Smoke Nuisance shows no abatement. Observations have been taken and a time limit fixed, but breaches of the latter have been too often allowed.

I remain,

Your obedient Servant,

J. C. EAMES, M.D.

TABLE 1.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1906 and previous Years.

KEARSLEY URBAN DISTRICT.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each year.	Births.		Total Deaths registered in the District.				Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Non-Residents regis- tered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents Registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	Nett deaths at all ages belonging to the District.	
		Number.	Rate.	Under 1 year of age.		At all Ages.					Number.	Rate.
				Number.	Rate per 1000 Births Registered.	Number.	Rate.					
I		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1896	8500	254	29·8	55	216	180	21·1				180	21·1
1897	9250	274	29·6	42	153	143	15·4				143	15·4
1898	9600	295	30·7	58	196	163	16·6				163	16·6
1899	10000	279	27·9	52	186	162	16·2				162	16·2
1900	10000	287	28·7	53	184	156	15·6			1	157	15·7
1901	9350	254	27·1	58	208	155	16·5			4	159	17·3
1902	9400	294	31·2	46	156	150	15·9			3	150	16·2
1903	9400	301	32·2	57	187	176	18·7			4	180	19·1
1904	9500	257	27	59	229	167	17·5			4	171	18
1905	9500	243	25·5	42	172	134	14·1			4	138	14·5
Averages for years 1896-1905	9450	274	30	52	189	158	16·8				159	16·9
1906	9600	259	26·9	43	166	151	15·7			1	152	15·8

* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water), 996.

Total population of all ages, 9,218. No. of inhabited houses, 1,883.

Average number of persons per house 4·8 at Census of 1901.

TABLE III.
KEARSLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
Cases of Infectious Disease Notified during the Year 1906.

Notifiable Disease.	Cases Notified in whole District.						No. of Cases removed to Hospital.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.					
		Under 1	1 to 5.	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65		65 and upwards
Small Pox							
Cholera							
Diphtheria	5		2	1	2		
Membranous Croup.....							
Erysipelas	3		1			2	
Scarlet Fever	13	1	2	8		2	
Typhus Fever.....							
Enteric Fever.....	7			2	1	4	
Relapsing Fever.....							
Continued Fever	1		1				
Puerperal Fever.....							
Plague							
Totals.....	29	1	6	11	3	8	

TABLE IV.
KEARSLEY URBAN DISTRICT.
Cause of, and Ages at Death during Year 1906.

Causes of Death.	Deaths in or belonging to whole District at subjoined Ages.							Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	
Small-pox								
Measles	2		2					
Sca let Fever.....								
Whooping Cough.....	3	1	2					
Diphtheria and membranous croup	1		1					
Croup								
Fever. { Typhus	2			1		1		
{ Enteric	1		1					
{ Other continued ..								
Epidemic influenza								
Cholera								
Plague.....								
Diarrhœa	17	15	2					
Enteritis.....	2		1			1		
Puerperal Fever								
Erysipelas								
Other septic diseases ..								
Phthisis (Pulm. Tuberculosis)	9				2	7		
Other tubercular diseases	3		1	1		1		
Cancer, malignant disease	5					5		
Bronchitis	12	3	1			8		
Pneumonia.....	6		3		2		1	
Pleurisy	1					1		
Other diseases of Respiratory organs.....								
Alcoholism, Cirrhosis of Liver	2					2		
Venereal diseases								
Premature birth	6	6						
Diseases and accidents of parturition.....	1					1		
Heart disease.....	9			1		5	3	
Accidents	3					2	1	
Suicides								
Cong. Debility	9	9						
All other causes	57	9	2	3	1	13	30	
All causes.....	152	43	16	6	5	47	35	

TABLE V.
KEARSLEY URBAN DISTRICT.
Infantile Mortality during the Year 1906.

Cause of Death,		Under 1 Week.	1-2 Week.	2-3 Week.	3-4 Week.	Total under 1 Month.	1-2 Month.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Month.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
All Causes	Certified ..	9	3	1	1	14	3	3	2	5	6	3	1	4	1		1	43
	Uncertified .																	
Common Infectious Diseases :—																		
{ Small-pox ..																		
{ Chicken-pox ..																		
{ Measles																		
{ Scarlet Fever .																		
{ Diphtheria : Croup								1			1							2
{ Whooping Cough																		
Diarrhoeal Diseases :							1				4		1	3	1			10
{ Diarrhoea, all forms										1				1				2
{ Enteritis																		
(not Tuberculous)																		
{ Gastritis, Gastro-								2		1								3
{ intestinal Catarrh																		
Wasting Diseases.—																		
{ Premature Birth..		4	1	1		6												6
{ Congenital Defects		1	1			2												2
{ Injury at Birth ..																		
{ Want of Breast-																		
milk .																		
{ Atrophy, Debility,																		
{ Marasmus..		4			1	5	1		1	3	1	1						12
Tuberculous Diseases :—																		
{ Tuberculous																		
{ Meningitis..							1											1
{ Other Tuberculous																		
{ Diseases ..																		
Convulsions . ..			1			1												1
Bronchitis												2					1	3
Other Causes ..									1									1
		9	3	1	1	14	3	3	2	5	6	3	1	4	1		1	43

Population estimated to middle of 1906—9,600.

Deaths from all causes at all ages—152.

Kearsley Urban District Council.

Inspector of Nuisances' Report.

COUNCIL OFFICES,

KEARSLEY,

FARNWORTH,

1907.

To the Chairman and Members of the Kearsley Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

In submitting to you my Sixth General Report, I wish to state that a large portion of the undermentioned work has been carried out through my having visited the owners and persons responsible for the sanitary condition of the various premises, and pointing out the necessity of the work required to be done. In a great many cases the work has been carried out without the necessity of serving notices.

SUMMARY OF NUISANCES DEALT WITH.

Number of Nuisances abated	..	..	377
Notices Served ..	..	..	70
Letters Written respecting Nuisances	..	..	90

DESCRIPTION OF NUISANCES DEALT WITH.

To open, clean out, and flush choked drains	..	13
Construct proper drains	.. ..	72
Fix stench trapped gullies	.. ..	99
Repair broken stop pipes	.. ..	7
Yards flagged or paved	.. ..	72
Fill up and repair insanitary ashpits	.. ..	39
Limewash, cleanse, and purify houses on certificate of Medical Officer	.. ..	15
Houses condemned as unfit for human habitation	..	2
Defective easing troughs and downspouts	..	11
Abate nuisances caused by the keeping of animals	..	4
Remove accumulations or deposits of refuse	..	2
Water closets provided in place of privies	..	17
Workshops limewashed	.. ..	4
Miscellaneous nuisances	.. ..	20
Total		377

FOOD INSPECTION.

Slaughter Houses, Fish, Fruit and Butchers' Shops have been periodically inspected. The following number of carcasses have been inspected :—Carcasses of Meat, 110 ; Sheep and Lambs, 145 ; Pigs, 13 ; Calves, 3.

One Carcase of Meat was found slightly affected with Tuberculosis. The offal was voluntarily given up. This I destroyed on the boiler fire at the Sewage Works.

One Box of Unsound Apples was voluntarily destroyed.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

There were 29 cases of Infectious Disease reported during 1906.

Two cases being removed to Hospital, one each of Scarlet and Typhoid Fever.

Number of Notifications	..	29
Houses revisited	.. ..	78
Rooms fumigated	.. ..	40

I have visited all cases of Infectious Disease reported as early as possible, and given printed and verbal instructions, where necessary, as to the proper means of isolation of the patient ; also as to the disinfection of the clothing and surroundings. At the termination of each case the house was fumigated, and all necessary steps taken to prevent the spread of the disease.

Careful attention has been paid to the drains, privies, and milk supplies and surroundings, and defects found have been remedied.

ANALYSIS OF NOTIFICATIONS, 1906.

DISEASE.	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jly.	Aug	Sept	Oct.	Nov	Dec	Total	1905	1904	1903	1902	1901
Scarlet Fever....			1	1	2	2			2	1	2	2	13	18	90	55	25	97
Typhoid Fever..		1	1	1						3		1	7	8	5	22	15	44
Erysipelas		1							1			1	3	1	5	6	3	3
Diphtheria				1	1					2	1		5	2	14	21	8	5
Puerperal														1	2	0	2	0
Membran. Croup.														0	3	0	2	0
Continued Fever.									1				1	0	1	0	0	0
Small Pox														0	0	1	0	0
Totals		2	2	3	3	2			4	6	3	4	29	30	120	105	55	149

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS.

Have been inspected along with the Medical Officer of Health.
Six Workshops were found in need of Limewashing.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.

These have been regularly inspected. Occasionally I have had to remind the farmers of the time for Limewashing, and this has been done without further trouble.

SMOKE OBSERVATIONS.

Thirteen Smoke Observations have been taken, Result :—

MILL.	Date.	Time.	Black Smoke	Mode- rate.	Slight	None	Total.
		[p.m	Mins.	Mins.	Mins.	Mins.	Min
Eagle Dyeing Co. Ld.	Feb. 7	11.5 a.m. to 12.5	12½	18	23½	6	60
Eagle Dyeing Co. Ld.	May 8	4.23 to 5.23 p.m.	6	6½	14	33½	60
Moss Rose Mill	May 25	10.40 to 11.40 a.m.	0	8	36½	15½	60
Eagle Dyeing Co. Ld.	June 5	4.10 to 5.10 p.m.	10	12½	18	19½	60
Irwell Bank Mill	June 22	2.30 to 3.30 p.m.	5	7½	47½	0	60
Trencherbone Pit	June 22	3.40 to 4.40 p.m.	20	15½	17½	7	60
Eagle Dyeing Co. Ld.	July 25	5.10 to 6.10 p.m.	1	4½	21½	33	60
Harrison Blair's C, tall	July 25	6.35 to 7.35 p.m.	0	7	27½	25½	60
Harrison Blair's, low,	July 25	6.35 to 7.35 p.m.	3½	12	31½	13	60
J. B. Entwistle, Bldrs	Aug. 28	4 to 5 p.m.	0	3	5½	51½	60
Eagle Dyeing Co. Ld.	Aug. 28	1.30 to 2.30 p.m.	4	9	31½	15½	60
Irwell Bank Mill	Sept. 2	10.55 to 11.55 a.m.	6½	13	23½	17	60
J. B. Entwistle, Bldrs	Sept. 25	9.45 to 10.45 a.m.	0	2	7½	50½	60

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

GEORGE WALSH,

Inspector of Nuisances.

